

REGION 6 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TOPIC: Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality Primacy Application for Revised Total Coliform Rule

DATE: December 4, 2015

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PURPOSE/ACTION NEEDED: Signature from Mr. Curry granting Oklahoma full primacy status for the Revised Total Coliform Rule

BACKGROUND:

The Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) increases public health protection through the reduction of potential pathways of entry for fecal contamination in the drinking water distribution systems. The RTCR establishes a maximum contaminant level (MCL) for *E. coli* and uses *E. coli* and total coliforms to initiate a find and fix approach to address fecal contamination that could enter into the drinking water distribution system. The rule requires public water systems to perform assessments to identify sanitary defects and subsequently take action to correct them. All public water systems must comply with the RTCR beginning on April 1, 2016.

CURRENT STATUS:

On April 2, 2015, EPA Region 6 received from the state of Oklahoma a primacy revision application package for the Revised Total Coliform Rule. EPA has determined that the RTCR adopted by Oklahoma is at least as protective to the public health as the corresponding federal regulations. EPA published this notice of tentative approval for the RTCR primacy program revision package in the *Federal Register* on November 2, 2015, and *The Oklahoman* on November 6, 2015, to meet the requirements under 40 CFR §142.13. Since EPA did not receive comments or a request for a public hearing within 30 days of these publications, EPA approval has become final in accordance with 40 CFR §142.13(g).

ENVIRONMENTAL/PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS: None

TECHNICAL CONCERNS: None

REGULATORY/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Oklahoma's Department of Environmental Quality General Counsel has certified that it has the legal authority to implement the Revised Total Coliform Rule.
- This regulation is adopted by reference under Chapter 631, Subchapter 1 of the *Oklahoma Administrative Code*.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- It is recommended that Mr. Curry grant the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality full primacy status for the Revised Total Coliform Rule.